

However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Amendments

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 26, 27, 34 and 36 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please substitute the following claim 22 for the pending claim 22:

E1
22. (Amended) A method of inducing pulmonary vasodilation comprising:
introducing an aerosolized adenoviral vector comprising a nitric oxide synthase gene operably linked to an expression control element into the lungs of a mammal in need of pulmonary vasodilation;

wherein the introduction of said vector into the lungs of said mammal results in pulmonary vasodilation that does not significantly affect systemic blood pressure or cardiac index.

Please substitute the following claim 28 for the pending claim 28:

E2
28. (Amended) A method of treating pulmonary hypertension comprising:
introducing an aerosolized adenoviral vector comprising nitric oxide synthase gene operably linked to an expression control element into the lungs of a mammal in need of treatment for pulmonary hypertension;

E2 cont
wherein the introduction of said vector into the lungs of said mammal results in pulmonary vasodilation that does not significantly affect systemic blood pressure or cardiac index.

Please substitute the following claim 35 for the pending claim 35.

E3
35. (Amended) The method of treating pulmonary hypertension as claimed in claim 28 wherein said adenovirus vector is AdCMVceNOS.

Please substitute the following claim 37 for the pending claim 37:

E4
Sub F' 37. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition suitable for aerosol delivery comprising a nucleic acid encoding a nitric oxide synthase gene operably linked to an expression control element, an adenoviral vector and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier vehicle; wherein said expression control element selectively expresses said nucleic acid encoding a nitric oxide synthase in pulmonary tissue.

Please add the following new claims.

E5
42. The method of treating pulmonary hypertension as claimed in claim 22 wherein said adenovirus vector is AdCMVceNOS.

43. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 37 wherein said adenovirus vector is AdCMVceNOS.